

## I-5 – South King County Projects Update

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Edition 30, March 29, 2005

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### Construction Update: I-5 - S. 317<sup>th</sup> HOV Direct Access

Last week, crews paved the shoulder along the southbound exit ramp to S. 320<sup>th</sup>. In April, we plan to shift this ramp over to the right, next to the new retaining walls. We also began pouring concrete last week for the barrier against these retaining walls.

Crews have also been setting a platform on top of the new bridge supports at the northbound I-5 bridge over Military Road. This type of temporary structure is called [falsework](#), and will serve as a support while we build additional width onto the bridge.

We continue pavement improvements on northbound and southbound I-5, with nightly lane closures (see details below). We also continue construction on retaining walls and the S. 317<sup>th</sup> bridge deck.

You can view [new construction photos](#) on our Web site.

### I-5 Lane Closures – Federal Way

Crews will close three lanes in each direction of I-5 near S. 320<sup>th</sup> nightly again this week.

On **northbound I-5**, we are closing lanes **Sunday through Thursday nights** (March 27-31). The first lane closes at 6 p.m., the second at 7 p.m. and the third at 11 p.m.

On **southbound I-5**, we are closing lanes **Monday through Thursday nights** (March 28-31). The first lane closes at 7 p.m., the second at 9 p.m. and the third at 11 p.m.

All lanes will reopen by 5 a.m. each following morning. These closures will continue for several weeks while crews improve I-5 pavement.

## **I-5 Lane and Ramp Closures – Seattle**

Crews will remove and replace the badly worn southbound I-5 pavement in downtown Seattle between James and Olive Streets. Closures are planned as follows:

### **Monday, March 28 through Friday, April 1:**

We will close the two right lanes of southbound I-5, the Howell Street on-ramp and Union Street exit (exit 165B) nightly:

- As early as 8 p.m. one lane of southbound I-5 will close.
- At 10 p.m. Howell and Union ramp closures will start.
- At 11 p.m. the second lane of southbound I-5 will close at 11 p.m.
- By 5 a.m. all lanes and ramps will reopen.

### **Friday, April 1 through Monday, April 4:**

- At noon on Friday, April 1, the southbound I-5 exit to Union Street will close.
- At 10 p.m. on Friday, April 1, crews will close two lanes of southbound I-5 and the Howell Street on-ramp to southbound I-5.
- By 5 a.m., Monday, April 4, all lanes and ramps will reopen.
- Express lanes will be dedicated to southbound I-5 traffic all weekend.

For more information, please visit [http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I5/James\\_Olive/](http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/I5/James_Olive/).

## **Late Season Snow Extends Studded Tire Deadline**

WSDOT and the Washington State Patrol today announced the extension of the studded tire deadline to April 11.

Typically, studded tires are only legal from Nov. 1- Mar. 31 because of safety considerations and the damage they cause to highways. Studded tires wear road surfaces at a higher rate than other tires, causing an estimated \$10 million in damages to state routes annually.

Though the deadline will extend through midnight April 11, WSDOT is urging motorists who are not traveling across the mountain passes to respect the traditional April 1 deadline.

“Since mid-March, 30 to 50 inches of snow has fallen in the mountains,” said Chris Christopher, State Maintenance Engineer. Christopher said over the next several days, forecasts are predicting an additional 20 to 30 inches or more to fall.

“The new deadline gives motorists two more weekends to travel the passes and then hopefully the weather will return to more spring-like conditions,” Christopher said.

## **Highway Advisory Radio Updates**

Tune your radio to **AM 1520** to hear a new project update each week on I-5 in Federal Way. Questions or comments? E-mail Laura Johnson at [JohnsoL@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:JohnsoL@wsdot.wa.gov).

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